

FROM WASHINGTON.

The Sequel to a Sunday Story—An Episode of Human Life.

A Dead Love Buried in the Gloom Days of Civil War.

News of the Day and Current Gossip at the National Capital.

By Mail and Telegraph.

Washington, D. C., December 13.—I have a note received at the moment from a pretty girl at Mineola. She says:

"I don't know you personally, but have read your letters in the GAZETTE, and feel like I do. Any how, I made up my mind to write to you and ask why you never finished that little love story you began to tell a month or more ago. Well, I didn't let you know what became of your black-eyed Yankee sweetheart? You almost made me love Hattie."

This note from "Annie," reminds me that I did spin a yarn left unfinished, and that I promised to give its conclusion. I was telling, too, how the North and South misconceived one another, and how partisan newspapers and declamatory party leaders and most delectable Sunday school books and even so-called histories separated the North from the South. Morally, the North had "seceded" long before practical secession, down South, was consummated, and Horace Greeley and Wendell Phillips were chiefest of secessionists.

I was telling, also, to say, this moral reason to the federal Union, evolved from intense negotiations postponed the consummation of mine and Hattie's marital union. I was telling how I left her, in the winter of 1860-61, in her New England home, and how she wept when I bade her good-bye. I witnessed Lincoln's first inauguration, and went South the next day. Of course I was not a secessionist, but when the war raged my sympathies were wholly with my people. I never had any faith in a double-barreled American Union. It was too much of a good thing, and I didn't very well see how two Unions were desirable when one was already deemed intolerable. I didn't see clearly how it was rational to have multitudes of white men bidden about the streets right to take an abolitionist position to an impossible place—Kansas. I didn't see why it was not wise to settle differences peacefully before than after war, and yet everybody knew that a settlement had to come. Had the audacity to say in a newspaper in May, 1861, that secessionism and abolitionism contemplated the same results, and I was arrested for it. It and was advised to quit the newspaper business by a nice little vigilante committee of the period, which evidently thought I didn't know how to run a newspaper. They have learned something of liberty since those bloody brutal days. But I was induced to succumb, and when I took back, contemplating subtilities of politics, of speech and action of the first months in 1861, however said and pitiful were results, they wear most ludicrous aspects. The most violent and impulsive and passionate became leaders of the multitude. I saw a day, through the bewailing neophytes of Hattie's misfortune, that only proper tribute to Hattie's love and memory; but when I looked up the sun was setting, the old sexton had disappeared, and I was the only living tenant of the churchyard.

The darkness of that cold, wintry New England night that settled down upon Hattie's tomb still rests upon my life.

If the accurately truthful story I have here written may give mournful pleasure to the pretty daughter of Mineola comparable with the ineffable sadness that overwhelms me while I tell it, I am content.

her feet and hesitatingly said, "No, no, don't go. My husband will be here in a moment. I want you to see him." Her eyes were averted and her face wore the pallor of death.

I was shocked, but mastering my emotions as best I could, said: "Yes, I will go." With a smile, I bade her good-bye, and hurried into the street. I slept that night in New York, and never more saw Hattie's sweet face or looked into the depths of her dreamless eyes, so full of dreams and blessed memories when last seen, nor holding her hand and speaking to her, nor kissing her, they half seemed. Long years went by, each flying more swiftly over my head than that had gone before.

Last winter I was in Boston, and could not resist the feeling that impelled me to visit the old city in which I had spent delightful days and weeks more than twenty years before. I confess that I did hope I might see

Hattie's face through a window-pane, and resuming my old room in the old hotel, and strolling about the streets on a quiet afternoon I entered the church in which Hattie and I had often listened to the voice without hearing the words of a good old dame. I was telling the son, now grown gray and bent by the weight of years, that I had done well. I said to him, "I used to come with the prettiest, sweetest, fairest girl of your age, and there is the paw we occupied." I looked at the silver plate. The name of Hattie's father was not there.

"What has become of that family?" I asked, naming it.

"Come with me," answered the old man. I followed it to the church yard. No words were spoken. He pointed silently to a pretty broken marble shaft. On its base I read

"SACRED TO THE MEMORY OF HATTIE TELL."

who faded out of life to blossom into immortality.

How long I stood chained to the strongest chords that bind human hearts I cannot tell. I lived over my life, recalling its most delightful epochs and vanished dreams and wasted days in vain hopes. I dreamed of what might have been, and how empty and purposeless that grave had been. The existence and beauty of the beautiful she had been were the theme of my thoughts. I may have wept tendering tears, the only proper tribute to Hattie's love and memory; but when I looked up the sun was setting, the old sexton had disappeared, and I was the only living tenant of the churchyard.

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TWO OLD LEADERS.

Blackburn and Randall Probably Left Out in the Cold on the Main Committees.

Special to the Gazette.

Washington, December 15.—Blackburn of Kentucky has withdrawn, and the struggle for the chairmanship on the appropriations committee is over. Blackburn expressed himself as not desirous to obstruct the action of the speaker. His friends all along have been the cause of the trouble.

HANDALS.

It is said Randall is not anxious to be chairman, and feels disgruntled at his decision. He would much prefer the role of master, so that he would have an opportunity for influence. The Pennsylvania realizes that little can be gained in the position. Cutting off expenses has been already carried to the lowest point, and the chairman would probably make many enemies as friends.

UNION OF SECRETARY FOLGER.

Secretary Folger is confined to his residence by a dangerous attack of sickness. A large delegation of congressmen, who were to have waited on him to-day, to ask that the collection of taxes on bonded spirits be deferred for six days, the secretary physicians say he will be able to transact business the coming week. This is not believed by many of his intimate friends. This is his second bad attack in the last half year.

THE PROTEC'S COURT.

Col. Wm. Clapp, of the Seventeenth Infantry, United States army, has arrived here from Texas, where he is stationed. He comes in obedience to a summons as a witness before the Protec's court of inquiry at the request of General Hazen. Hazen is generally supposed to be guilty of the charge preferred against him, and will probably be dismissed from the service.

COMMISSIONER OF EVANS.

The continuation of Evans as commissioner of internal revenue is not probable. He is opposed by Sherman and the two Massachusetts senators. The nomination is temporarily hung up to investigate charges preferred against him.

POSTAL MATTERS.

Katie Lanius was commissioned as postmistress at Dodd, Christian Warren as postmaster at Haw Creek, W. P. Davis at Sunnyside and Mary Miller at Saltillo, Green Dalby, postmaster at Dalby, Bowie county, is placed under \$400 bond. A mail will be established between Avalon and Nash, in Ellis county, twice per week. Saltillo postoffice, in Newton county, is definitely closed.

THE MEETING.

She met me in the doorway. She was paralyzed. She grew colorless and trembled in every nerve. She held my hand and looked wonderingly, imploredly, into my face. She had heard, I imagined, that she was dead. Her face was colorless, she finally said, in broken accents. "We thought you were dead, but I never did wholly believe it. I always told them you were coming back." Then she was silent and again she said, while leading me with unsteady steps into the parlor, "I am so glad to see you!" I sought to relieve her of evident and as I thought natural embarrassment, and asked about her father and mother. She answered that they would see me presently. Then also talked of others we had known and loved, never recurring to our personal relations or referring to the one sigh, thought and hope and passion of my life. She seemed as far away from me as when I was watching sheets from Sherman's guns in the moonlit skies above Atlanta. Even then I had wondered whether Hattie was dreaming of me. I was conscious, when I held her hand, that her nerves and touch gave expression to thoughts and emotions to which no tongue refused utterance. I knew she loved me. Her eyes were sadly eloquent; her lips were expressionless. That she might recover her self-possession and maleness, I said at last: "Hattie, I will return to my hotel. I hastened to greet her and did not change my apparel. I will return within the hour." She rose to

EX-SENATOR SPENCER.

Washington, December 15.—Argument began in the criminal court to-day concerning the validity of the suspensions served on ex-Senator Spencer in the star route cases.

THE HOUSE COMMITTEE.

Speaker Carlisle said to-day that he is working night and day for the formation of the house committees. It is thought the appointments will be made before the holiday recess.

THE WHISKY COMMITTEE.

Newark, N. J., December 15.—Geo. Frank, who attempted suicide last week, has been placed in charge of officers in connection with the murder of Phoenix Pauline a few weeks ago.

Placed in Custody.

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to succeed, and will not be long delayed. He concludes by saying that a republic is the only form of government which will allow Spain to enjoy order, morality, justice and liberty. Whether the future struggle shall be one of peace or arms, the day of battle will be a day of victory. Our motto will always be never to compromise with the Bourbons.

FOREIGN.

ENGLAND.

O'DONNELL'S SCAFFOLD.

London, December 14.—The scaffold upon which O'Donnell is to be executed is being erected. The hangman is inside of Newgate and remains there until after the execution.

O'Donnell sleeps well and takes his meals regularly. He does not occupy the cell to which condemned prisoners are usually assigned, but was placed in a larger one. Two wardens are constantly watching him. Usually only one man is detailed for this service.

O'DONNELL'S PLUCK.

London, December 15.—O'Donnell maintains great firmness of demeanor and is apparently prepared to meet his fate, evidently regarding himself as a martyr. His determined air of bravado and cheerful indifference to his impending fate have greatly impressed his warders. His brother visited him for twenty minutes, and at parting O'Donnell shook his brother's hands, exclaiming, "Good-bye, old fellow; keep up your spirits and don't be downcast because of me."

A CONTEST.

Skinner of North Carolina, who received from the governor a certificate of election as member of the house, will present his credentials and ask to be sworn in Monday. His opponent, Peale, will contest the seat on several grounds, one of which is that the vote of one county in the district was not taken, which renders the election void.

JAPANESE AFFAIRS.

The Japanese legation has received telegraphic advices announcing several important changes in the government departments. They consist in the transfer of a prominent official from one department to another, but do not involve any alteration in the personnel of the government. Okl., minister of justice, becomes minister of education; Fudinak, minister of education, has been placed at the head of the council of state, with Yamagata, chief counsel of state, appointed minister of the interior, and Yamada, minister of the interior, placed in the ministry of justice. These transfers are not regarded as likely to entail any radical changes in government policy, but would seem to indicate that the Japanese government has resolved to preserve the revision outlined in a recent dispatch from that country.

TEMPLE.

The Water Works Telephone Talk—A Theatrical Troupe.

special to the Gazette.

Temple, December 15.—The Temple Water company have rejected all bids for the contract to build the water works, and have ordered machinery, etc., to begin operations on the works under direction of the company as soon as practicable. The highest bid was \$13,000. The company claim they can save ten to fifteen thousand dollars by constructing the works themselves.

The project of connection with Dalton and other points by telephone soon are favorite.

The Mabel Norton troupe gave an entertainment at the opera house last night, which was highly appreciated by our citizens.

HILLSBORO.

A Batch of Brief Personal Items—Improvements.

special to the Gazette

Hillsboro, December 15.—Miss Eliza Muse of Evergreen, La., a rivel on this morning's train on a visit of some weeks to the families of Dr. Robert and Maj. Ewell.

Christmas goods are now being rapidly opened up by the dealers.

Hillsboro is rapidly improving, more so than any town on the Missouri-Kansas road between Waco and Fort Worth. It lays all the others in the shade.

Something about an important event that is to occur next Tuesday is being whispered around town.

Misses Edna and Ora Cox, who have been attending school at Waxahachie, arrived home yesterday, accompanied by Misses McNaughton and Ethelmore Cox of Waxahachie.

Miss Sallie Wade of Grandville came in on the morning train to visit Miss Eliza Swofford.

WACO.

trial of Fred Daris—Newspaper Change—The Public Schools—Repairing the Bridge.

Special to the Gazette.

Waco, December 15.—The district court has been engaged to-day in the trial of Fred Davis, a young man charged with burglary. He walked, at the risk of his life, along a three-inch brick wall on the outside of the McClelland hotel, fourth story, and made an entrance into a room occupied by two young ladies. It is supposed he had a dark object in view, but burglary was the only charge that could be brought against him.

Frank P. Cravens, for some time

past in charge of the Galveston News

branch office here, has been transferred to Austin, for which point he leaves to-morrow. Mr. C. M. Hinby, late business manager of the Examiner, takes Mr. Cravens' place as news correspondent and agent here.

The city schools show the largest enrollment and attendance for the week ending to-day of any period since their establishment. The enrollment was exactly 1,900; attendance a little over 900.

Business in all lines has been better to-day than for several weeks past. The weather is superb now and roads drying up rapidly.

The florning of the Waco suspension bridge has been taken up, to be replaced by new timbers. As the bridge is 475 feet span, this work of renovation is a quite expensive and tedious undertaking.

The Ford opera company arrived this evening, and will play to-night and to-morrow night.

A Prize Fight.

Pittsburg, December 15.—A prize fight took place this morning at a barn on New Brighton road seven miles from Allegheny City between John Greer and James Greer for a purse of \$200. The mill began last night, but after a hard round the backers interceded and the finish was postponed until day-light. At an early hour the men came together again and fought four rounds more. Greer forced the fight from the start, and on the fourth round knocked Greer insensible. The fight was then decided in his favor. About fifty persons were present.

Resisted.

Petersburg, Va., December 15.—Enoch Town, a negro, sentenced to be hanged at Halifax Court House, N. C., this morning, has been respite until the 27th of February.

Placed in Custody.

Columbus, Ohio, December 15.—A negro, who attempted suicide last

week, has been placed in charge of officers in connection with the murder of Phoenix Pauline a few weeks ago.

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